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## THE PROPERTY PED STAYURS OF AMERICA

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

May 18, 2005

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APPLICATION NUMBER: 60/562,435 FILING DATE: April 15, 2004

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Certified by

Em W. Duckas

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office

# 041504

#### PROVISIONAL APPLICATION COVER SHEET

his is a request for filing a PROVISIONAL APPLICATION under 37 C.F.R. 1.53 (b)(2).

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PTO		Docket Number	1366US1		Type a plus sign (+) inside this box →		х			
INVENTOR(s)/APPLICANT(s)										
Last Name First Name MI Residence (City and either State or Foreign Country)										
Stone	Theodore	J.	St. Louis Park, Minnesota							
Palashewski	D.	Andover, Minnesota								
Nguyen	Vu	K.	Brooklyn Park, Minnesota							
Van Keulen	Dennis	J. Rogers, Minnesota								
TITLE OF THE INVENTION										
Autom	natic Dose Size Selection	on for Multi-C	Component F	luid Propo	rtioners					
	CORRE	SPONDENCE A	DDRESS							
	Graco Minnesota Inc.									
	P. O. Box 1441									
	Minneapolis									
STATE Minnesota		5440-1441	COUNT	RY U.S.A						
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Specification	Number of Pages 5		Small Entity Statement							
Drawing(s)	Drawing(s) Number of Sheets 1 Other (specify)									
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Douglas B. Farrow		Reg. No	.: 28582							
Additional inventors are being named on separately numbered sheets attached hereto.										
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Effective 01/01/2003. Patent Fees are subject to annual revision.	First Named	First Named Inventor Stone					
Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27	Examiner Na	ame					
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Name (Print/Type) Douglas B. Farrow Registration No (Astomey/Ag Signature	runy   20002			Date April 15			
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#### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket Number: 1366US1

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Citizenship:

All United States of America

Title of Invention:

Automatic Dose Size Selection for Multi-Component Fluid Proportioners

Send all Correspondence to:

Douglas B. Farrow

Corporate Intellectual Property

Counsel

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## AUTOMATIC DOSE SIZE SELECTION FOR MULTI-COMPONENT FLUID PROPORTIONERS

#### TECHNICAL FIELD

5 .	This application claims the benefit of US Application serial number
	, filed

#### BACKGROUND ART

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Devices for dispensing plural component materials have become increasingly popular in recent years, as such materials have assumed more widespread usage in industry. As used herein, a catalyst (or first fluid) is mixed with a resin (or second fluid). While the terms catalyst and resin are used for purposes of convenience in reference, it is understood that other plural component systems may be utilized which might not normally utilize such terminology.

Also known are systems such as those sold under the PRECISION-MIX trademark by the assignee of the instant invention and generally described in European patent number 116879 and US patent no. 5,368,059, the contents of which are both hereby incorporated by reference. In such systems, the two fluids to be dispensed both have a flow meter and a valve associated with them. A fixed amount of the first fluid is dispensed into a mixer and then a fixed amount of the second fluid is dispensed into the mixer, whereupon the process is repeated. Traditionally, electronic proportioners have required

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that the dose size either be fixed or entered by the user. Selecting the appropriate dose size has been dependendent on factors such as flow rate, viscosity, and mix ratio. This invention allows for better overall mix performance and improved usability since there is no input from the user required.

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#### DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

In the method of the instant invention, after a selected number of doses have been dispensed, the system stops and calculates how many of those doses have fallen within a predetermined tolerance of the desired ratio between the two materials. If too many doses fall outside the tolerance, the dose size is decreased. This process is repeated until the appropriate number of doses fall within the desired tolerance.

These and other objects and advantages of the invention will appear more fully from the following description made in conjunction with the accompanying drawings wherein like reference characters refer to the same or similar parts throughout the several views.

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#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a flow chart showing the dose selection method of the instant invention.

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### BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION

Figure 1 shows a flow chart detailing the instant invention. In the method of the instant invention, a selected number of doses are dispensed. The system then stops and calculates how many of those doses have fallen within a predetermined tolerance (98% in the preferred embodiment) of the desired ratio (e.g. 2:1) between the two materials. If too many doses fall outside the tolerance, the dose size is decreased from the initial setting (50cc in the preferred embodiment). This process is repeated until the appropriate number of doses fall within the desired tolerance.

It is contemplated that various changes and modifications may be made to the

method without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as defined by the
following claims.

#### **CLAIMS**

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- A method of setting dose size for a plural component sequential metering system for dispensing materials having at least first and second components and comprising the steps of:
- 5 dispensing a plurality of doses of plural component material;

measuring the ratio between said components in said plurality of doses;

determining the number of said plurality which fall within a predetermined tolerance of the desired ratio; and

decreasing said dose size when the number of doses falling outside said predetermined tolerance exceeds a predetermined level

#### ABSTRACT

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The invention is for use with a plural component sequential metering system. In the method of the invention, after a selected number of doses have been dispensed, the system stops and calculates how many of those doses have fallen within a predetermined tolerance of the desired ratio between the two materials. If too many doses fall outside the tolerance, the dose size is decreased. This process is repeated until the appropriate number of doses fall within the desired tolerance.

